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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: January 29, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN INCREASE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION
REGARDING CITY WASTE SERVICES, RECYCLING, AND LITTERING.**

Council Member Scott Benson requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN INCREASE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION REGARDING CITY WASTE SERVICES, RECYCLING, AND LITTERING.**

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

BY MEMBER SCOTT BENSON

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN INCREASE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION REGARDING
CITY WASTE SERVICES, RECYCLING, AND LITTERING.**

WHEREAS, Since Detroit implemented a city-wide recycling program, residents have steadily chosen to opt into the program and over 40% of households currently participate in the recycling program; and

WHEREAS, Although participation in the recycling program is growing, there is a need to educate the general public regarding which types of materials can be recycled and the benefits of recycling in order to increase the number of households who opt in to the program and to reduce the amount of contaminated materials placed in recycling bins; and

WHEREAS, There is also a need to educate the public regarding the proper disposal of bulk waste, the various ways that members of the public can inadvertently receive blight tickets, and the benefits of reducing littering city-wide; and

WHEREAS, Although the city may exercise police power to encourage compliance with the Detroit City Code regarding proper disposal of waste, it is essential to ensure that the public is aware of the benefits of compliance to encourage voluntary participation; and

WHEREAS, Increasing voluntary compliance with the city's waste disposal and recycling programs is a matter of public health and safety. Additionally, reducing the amount of littering and illegal dumping will aesthetically improve Detroit neighborhoods, which will provide psychological benefits to residents and positively impact property values; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council hereby strongly urges the Duggan administration to create a media campaign that will educate Detroit residents on the benefits of proper waste disposal to encourage voluntary compliance with the City Code and to discourage littering and blight; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Clerk send a copy of this resolution to Mayor Mike Duggan.